

MISCELLANY

A Song for October.

October strews the woodland o'er
With many a brilliant color;
The world is brighter than before,
Why should our hearts be duller?
Sorrow and the scarlet leaf,
Sad thoughts and sunny weather—
Ah! me! this glory and this grief
Agree not well together.

This is the parting season, this
The time when friends are flying;
And lovers now, with many a kiss,
Their long farewells are sighing.
Why is earth so gaily dressed?
This pomp that autumn beareth
A funeral seems, where every guest
A bridal garment weareth.

Each one of us may often here,
On some blue morn hereafter,
Return to view the gaudy year,
But not in boyish laughter.
We shall then be wrinkled men,
Our brows with silver laden,
And thou this glen may'st seek again,
But never more a maiden.

Nature perhaps foresees that spring
Will touch her teeming bosom,
And think a few brief months will bring
The bird—the bee—the blossom.
A! these forests do not know,
Or would less brightly wither,
The virgin that adorns them so
Will never more come hither.

THE HISTORY OF PEWS.—In Anglo-Saxon and some of the Norman churches of early date, a stone bench was to project within the wall, running around the whole interior except the East end. In 1317, they are represented as sitting on the ground or standing. About this time, people introduced low, rude, three-legged stools promiscuously over the church. Wooden seats were introduced soon after the Norman conquest. In 1287, a decree was issued in regard to the wrangling for seats, so common that none should call any seat in the church his own, except noblemen and patrons, each entering and holding the one he first found. As we approach the Reformation, from 1530 to 1540, seats were more appropriated, the entrance being guarded by cross-bars, and the initial letters engraved on them. Immediately after the Reformation; the pew system prevailed, as we learn from a complaint the poor commons addressed to Henry VIII, in 1546, in reference to his decree that a Bible should be in every church, at liberty for all to read, because they feared it might be taken into the "quyre" or some "pne." In 1608, galleries were introduced. As early as 1614, pews were arranged to afford comfort by being raised or cushioned, while the sides around were so high as to hide those within; a device of the Puritans to avoid being seen by the officers who report those who did not stand when the name of Jesus was mentioned. The services were often greatly protracted, so that many would fall asleep; hence Swift's witty allusion—

"A bedstead of the antique mode,
Compact, of timber many a load;
Such as our ancestors did use,
Was metamorphosed into pews;
Which still their ancient nature keep,
By lodging folks disposed to sleep."
With the reign of Charles I, the reasons for the heightening of the sides disappeared.

TRAVELING IN SCOTLAND.—The Paris papers have an anecdote of two well known French actors who traveled this autumn in Scotland. They put up at a miserable inn for the night, *faute de mieux*, where the use of soap was clearly not the custom of that part of the country, and the sandy-headed waiter's hair was a thing of entanglement, and zoologically inclined. The evening dinner was brought in by this uncanny Scot, and consisted of roast beef and plum pudding. F. caught sight of the waiter outside, with the dish in one hand and brushing his hair with the other over the beef, to present himself in the most Adonis-like form. F. was horror-struck, but said nought, and left D. to the full enjoyment of the meat, believing what his eye had not seen his heart would not grieve about, and F. made his dinner entirely off the pudding. D., having dined, went to smoke and speak to the landlady. He found her in the kitchen, but, coming suddenly upon her, saw her snatch up a cotton night-cap. The proof of the purpose to which it had been applied was clear. He accused her of it. She confessed the pudding had been boiled in it, having nothing handier, and that it belonged to Sandy. Mutual explanations ensued between F. and D., and one has not been able to keep the secret from his Parisian friends.

It is noticed as a remarkable fact that the Northern Methodist bishops who, twenty years ago, voted in favor of the right of the Southern Church to its property, are now demanding that their title to the same shall be annulled—in other words, that the question shall be re-opened and re-agitated.

A Constantinople correspondent, writing on the 23d ult., to the New York Tribune, says the number of deaths in the Turkish capital, during the fifty days' prevalence of cholera, were not less than fifty thousand, though the official return of the Turkish Government largely under-stated them. Only one death has occurred among the American residents, that of a little child of the Rev. Mr. Washburne. The average mortality was sixty-five per cent. of those attacked, while of those treated by the medical men of the American Mission only fifteen per cent. died. The writer says the cholera followed no known laws, raging with the greatest severity in the highest, best ventilated, and most cleanly quarters of the city, where in previous epidemics not a single case had occurred. The mortality among Europeans was much greater after the disease had begun to decline than during its height. Persons who had fled from infected districts, apparently in perfect health, have generally been attacked as soon as they reached their new places of refuge. The writer adds:

"It is said that the swallows and several other kinds of birds deserted the city at the commencement of the epidemic, and are only now beginning to return—and I believe this to be a fact. It is also said that the gilding on the caecques in the Golden Horn and Bosphorus has tarnished, especially in those localities where the cholera has raged most severely. The summer has been delightful. I have never known more perfect weather in Constantinople. For two months before the cholera came, the health of the city was better than it has been for years, and the weather has remained the same during the epidemic that it was before. I have carefully read the description of the cholera in "Wood's Theory and Practice of Medicine," and it is wonderfully correct, although the treatment of the disease there recommended is not, as a whole, the one which I should recommend."

The whitewashing of the most eminent wretches who have been gibbeted in chains by history for many centuries, is now the favorite occupation of the historian. Richard the Third, King John, Caligula, Nero, the Borgias, and Benedict Arnold, have all, within the last decade, been honorably acquitted of the false accusations which have so long tarnished their illustrious reputations, and they now rank among the most Christian, honored and enlightened gentlemen of former times.

Louis Napoleon also, in his history of Julius Caesar, has just put the first coat of whitewash upon Cataline, and expects by the time the royal author reaches the third volume of his work to turn the tables completely upon Cicero, that malignant calumniator of the most exemplary young Roman of his day. Cain and Judas Iscariot are, we believe, the only remaining gentlemen of unenviable distinction whose characters have not felt the beneficial effects of this whitewashing process; but the learned German, who, in a late work on "Noah and his Times," has triumphantly vindicated the characters of the "sons of Anok" and of the inhabitants of Sodom, intends taking Judas in hand as soon as he can collect the documents bearing upon his case.

Dinner is said to be the most important event of the day. A king's cook's dinner memorandum has just settled an important date. There is a conflict of authority among the chroniclers with regard to the exact date of the battle of Cressy. No means were known by which the doubt could be solved; but it chanced that the accounts of the king's kitchen for that period have survived the lapse of time, in which the cook claims to be reimbursed his charges for preparing the royal dinner each day. The cook has mentioned the place where from day to day he performed his office, and thus the exact day is learned on which Edward dined at Cressy. There is but one such day, which was undoubtedly that of the battle.

A gentleman, who had the curiosity to spend a dime in answering an advertisement which promised valuable advice for that amount, received by mail the following answer: "Friend, for your ten cents, postage, please find inclosed advice which may be of great value to you. As many persons are injured for weeks, months and years, by the careless use of a knife, therefore, my advice is, when you use a knife, always whittle from you."

A French photographer has made arrangements for descending to the bed of the ocean in a submarine vessel, provided with the electric light, and making submarine photographs.

CHARLESTON.—A gentleman who has been absent from Charleston for the short time of six weeks, returned in the last steamer from New York. On walking up East Bay, his first exclamation was that of surprise at witnessing the wonderful improvements that had been made in that section of the city during his temporary leave. We assured him that the improvements were not confined to any special locality. On every street and thoroughfare the marks of energy, industry and enterprise were plainly visible. East Bay, six weeks ago, was almost barren of open business places, while now it is next to impossibility to rent a building covered with a roof. Owners of buildings are actively engaged repairing damages occasioned by fire and water, and long before the repairs are completed, applications are received to occupy the premises. The same holds good with Meeting, King and other principal streets. There is a great demand for stores and warehouses all over the city. In order to meet this demand, it will be necessary for some measures to be taken towards restoring the burnt district to a habitable condition. The city cannot afford to allow that large area for valuable space to remain in ruins. Let the owners of the property commence at once to put up larger and commodious buildings, and when completed, there will be no need of begging for occupants. The rents in Charleston are increasing daily, which is another evidence of enhanced business activity. Stores, which three months ago could be obtained for five hundred dollars per annum, cannot now be had for less than \$1,500 and \$2,000 for the same term. Let us continue in the good work of city improvement.

[Charleston Courier, 29th.

IN A WRETCHED CONDITION.—A friend of ours who has been working for the Montgomery and West Point Railroad, at the Six Mile Station, informed us the other day that no one can conceive, without ocular demonstration, of the wretched condition of the "freedmen" in the large camp located around that station. He thinks their filth and wretchedness exceed any picture given him of their condition while huddled and packed together in the bend opposite this city. They were filthy enough and indolent enough, in all conscience, when in a state of slavery, with masters to look after them and from motives of humanity and self-interest to compel them to observe some decency and cleanliness. Now, however, left to themselves, instantaneously set free, for which they had had no previous preparation, and without any constraint, no wonder they are showing out the real "nigger," and vieing with the brute creation. We really feel sorry for the poor, ignorant, filthy creatures; and hope that the "Freedmen's Bureau" will yet better their condition. Our friend walked through the camp, accompanied by several "freedmen" in his employ, all of whom expressed themselves disgusted with the sights, and said if that was freedom they wanted none of it, in the freedman camps at least.

[Montgomery Ledger.

A FEW EXAMPLES.—The extermination of the negro race is already beginning. A gentleman tells us of one who left her old cabin and came here with her four children to seek work, when for months past there has not been work and money enough in Columbus for half the people in it. The negress, still wanting to be in town, built her a rude hut near Girard, and in a short time three of the children died and were buried in the bushes near by. Another woman, who came here, and went afterwards to the country, but not to the "old place," has lost two out of three children in a week. Neglect was the cause of both deaths. These are not rare cases. In all towns they are rapidly dying.

One of the blessings attendant upon freedom is the neglect of children by their mothers. A lady told us of a hired negress who left the lot and her babe for over thirty hours, and feeling insulted when asked why she had left, replied, "the fewer children the less work."—Columbus (Ga.) Sun.

The life of ex-Governor Brown, of Georgia, was threatened on his arrival at Knoxville, Tennessee, one day last week, by some railroad employes, who charged that he had issued an order last year for the hanging of every railroad person found in the employment of the United States. A similar scene, in a more violent form, was enacted on the arrival of Governor Brown at Chattanooga. The military interfered, protected the Governor, and quelled the disturbance.

STOLEN,
FROM my premises, on the 2d instant, a medium-sized Bay Mare MULE, blind in right eye and both fore hoofs split. She was taken by a black man named Jerry, formerly a slave of Mr. John Beard, of this place. His right arm is artificial, and he wears a glove on the hand. I suppose him to be about Charleston, S. C., or Augusta, Ga. I will give a reward of FIFTY DOLLARS for his arrest and delivery to proper authority, and a liberal reward for the recovery of the male.
W. S. SLOAN,
Columbia, S. C.
Sept 22 10*

Fifty Dollars Reward.
STOLEN from me a fine BAY HORSE, supposed to be between 14 and 15 hands high, large dish face, star in the forehead, left eyelash torn off, which keeps his eye-ball fretted and has caused a spot in the eye—yet his sight is good; one hind foot white, a small wind-gall on his withers, a large neck, thin body, very dark mane and tail. Any person knowing of such a horse will please address me at Chick Springs, Greenville District, and I will send for the horse and send the reward.
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